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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-06

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FOR: EUR/ CE SWING ONLY

E. O. 11652: N/ A
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SUBJ: CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BROOKS SPEECH MAY 27

1. PER TELCOM, FOLLOWING ANECDOTES AND BACKGROUND MAY BE USE-
FUL HUMAN TOUCH IN PERSONALIZING SPEECH:

2. IN THE SUMMER OF 1945, AMERICAN OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES SENT
ONE EMISSARY AFTER ANOTHER TO CONSULT THEODOR HEUSS, WHO WAS
AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY IN THE POLITICAL AND
CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF GERMANY. THEY WERE SEEKING HIS ADVICE
ON REBUILDING THE COUNTRY. IN THOSE DAYS, HEUSS WAS LIVING
IN HEIDELBERG IN SPARSE CIRCUMSTANCES.

IN WRITING TO A FRIEND YEARS LATER, WHEN HE WAS PRESIDENT OF
THE FRG, HEUSS RECALLED THOSE DIFFICULT DAYS AND HIS MANY
AMERICAN VISITORS. SPEAKING OF EDUCATION, HE SAID HE ALWAYS
ADVISED THE AMERICANS TO TAKE OVER THE CULTURAL MINISTRY IN
TPTO AND TO GIVE FULL REPOSNSIBILITY TO ONE PERSON.
THE RESPONSE WAS QUICK IN COMING. IN SEPTEMBER 1945, HEUSS HIM-
SELF WAS MADE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE AMERICAN
CONTROLLED AREA OF BADEN- WUERTTEMBERG* HE WAS GIVEN THE ALMOST
IMPOSSIBLE TASK OF REFORMING AND REBUILDING THE EDUCATION SYSTEM--
- - WITH A STAFF OF TWO - A WELL KNOWN GERMAN, THEODOR BAEUERLE,
AND AN AMERICAN EDUCATION OFFICER, JOHN P. STEINER.

WITH SEHNSUCHT (FOND RECOLLECTION), HEUSS RECALLS, FURTHER, THAT
HE, AS MINISTER, HAD ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD GIVE NO DIRECTIVES
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TO HIS SUBORDINATES FOR THE TASKS AT HAND. RATHER, THEY ALL AGREED TO WORK TOGETHER IN THE RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD AND TO DO THE BEST THEY COULD. HEUSS NOTED WITH PLEASURE THE " CLEAN AIR" IN THE ROOM; THE ABSENCE OF INTRIGUES AND RIVALRIES, AS THEY WORKED OT OUT THE " SCHOOL REFORM" OF THOSE DAYS.

3. WRITING ABOUT EMIGRATION FROM SOUTHWESTERN GERMANY, HISTORIAN KARL GOETZ MENTIONS SUCH PEOPLE AS JOHN JACOB ASTOR WHO WENT TO U. S. FROM THE NEARBY VILLAGE OF WALLDORF IN 1784. ASTOR' S ANTECEDANTS.
KONRAD WEISSER AND HIS SON FROM GROSSASPACH WHO WORKED WITH AMERICAN INDIANS IN PRE- REVOLUTIONARY TIME, NIKOLAUS HERCH-HEIMER AND MICHAEL KALTEISEN WHO FOUGHT IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR, AND POET AND FREEDOM FIGHTER KONRAD KREZ WHO EMIGRATED FROM LANDAU AND BECAME A GENERAL DURING CIVIL WAS ARE OTHER SONS OF THIS AREA WHO MADE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICA.

4. COMMENTING ON ALL THE THOUSANDS OF EMIGRES TO THE US, GOETZ CONCULUDES QUOTE IF THE EMIGRES DID NOT FORGET THEIR OLD HOMELAND, NEVER DID IT CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE FAITHFULNESS TO THEIR NEW COUNTRY. TO THEM IT WAS LIKE A MAN WHO GIVES HIS LOVE TO A WOMAN WHEN HE MARRIES HER. FOR HIM IT WOULD SEEM A DISGRACE TO FORGET ALL ABOUT HIS MOTHER AS A RESULT OF MARRIAGE. UNQUOTE. GOETZ GOES ON TO SAY QUOTE OUR COUNTRYMEN IN ALL FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD HAVE FOR CENTURIES EXEMPLIFIED A BOROTHERLY COM-MUNITY BETWEEN PEOPLES, AS PIONEERS BEHIND A PLOW, AS PIONEERS OF GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS, AS PIONEERS OF UNDERSTANDING AND OF PEACE. END QUOTE. RUCHTI

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